Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/065,811 Examiner	JOHANNESSON, STIG-ERIK Art Unit
	Minh-Chau T. Pham	1724
The MAILING DATE of this communication appeal All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT R	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this a or other appropriate communication IGHTS. This application is subject	correspondence address pplication. If not included on will be mailed in due course. THIS
1. This communication is responsive to <u>Amendment filed on </u>	<u>10/20/06</u> .	
2. ⊠ The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-11</u> .		
3.	e been received. be been received in Application No. cuments have been received in this of this communication to file a repl IENT of this application. itted. Note the attached EXAMINE is reason(s) why the oath or declar is be submitted. Son's Patent Drawing Review (PTC) is Amendment / Comment or in the is Ad(c)) should be written on the draw the header according to 37 CFR 1.121 sit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL	y complying with the requirements R'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF ration is deficient. D-948) attached Office action of rings in the front (not the back) of I(d). must be submitted. Note the
Attachment(s) 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	5. Notice of Informal 6. Interview Summar Paper No./Mail Da 7. Examiner's Amend 8. Examiner's Statem 9. Other	y (PTO-413), ate

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Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-11 allowed.

The closest relevant art is Gluys et al (5,509,949) wherein Gluys et al teach a device for ventilating a transmission case (col. 3, lines 48-50) comprising a passage connectable between a residual volume of air inside a transmission case and the atmosphere outside the transmission case (col. 4, lines 16-20, col. 5, lines 49-51), the passage comprising an expansion portion (26 in Fig. 4, col. 4, lines 16-19) that tapers to a neck opening (18 in Fig. 4, col. 4, lines 25-29) leading to atmospheric air that is to be drawn into the device (see arrow 40 & 50 in Fig. 4), wherein the expansion portion (26) being positioned downstream to the neck opening (18) and having a sufficient large area to cause suspended particles swept through the neck opening to fall out of suspension and be trapped therein (follow arrow direction in Fig. 4).

Claims 1-8 of this instant patent application differ from the disclosure of Gluys et al in that the device for the ventilation of a transmission case has a compressed air source connected to the passage between the inside of the transmission case and the first section.

Claims 9-11 of this instant patent application differ from the disclosure of Gluys et al in that the device for the ventilation of a transmission case has a compressed air source connected to the device and configured to backwash trapped particles from within the expansion portion.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh-Chau T. Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-1163. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon/Tues/Thur/Fri 7:00 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on (571) 272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Minh-Chau Pham Patent Examiner

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December 15, 2006